

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 Data C generated by scrambling user-desired digital data P and a control word  $CW_p$  corresponding to the number of reproductions  $p$  are recorded on recording media. When creating a master, a user has already been charged for the number of reproductions  $p$ . A decryption block decrypts the control word  $CW_p$ , which is read from the recording media, to  $CW_0$ . A de-scrambler uses the decryption control word  $CW_0$  to  
10 decrypt the digital data P for output to a reproduction unit. After confirming the end of reproduction, the decryption block writes a control word  $CW_{(p-1)}$  back to the recording media. The recording media may be reproduced  $p$  times with no need for communication between a reproduction device and an accounting  
15 manager.